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STATE OF DELAWARE

BOARD OF CLINICAL SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

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PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES: BOARD OF CLINICAL SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

MEETING DATE AND TIME: Monday, August 17, 2015 at 9:30 a.m.

PLACE: 861 Silver Lake Boulevard, Dover, Delaware

Conference Room A, second floor of the Cannon Building

MINUTES APPROVED: 09/04/2015

MEMBERS PRESENT

Rochelle Mason, Professional Member, **President**, Presiding John Mucha, Professional Member, **Vice President**Kyla Teed, Public Member **Secretary**Sandra Bisgood, Public Member
Lori Malloy, Professional Member

DIVISION STAFF/DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL PRESENT

Eileen Kelly, Deputy Attorney General David Mangler, Director Jessica Williams, Administrative Specialist II

MEMBERS ABSENT

Tara Donofrio, Public Member Florienda Scott-Cobb, Professional Member

ALSO PRESENT

Michelle Bailiff
Linda Brittingham, Christiana Care Health System
Ronna Glenn
Ada Morris

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Mason called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board reviewed July 20, 2015 minutes for approval. Ms. Malloy moved, seconded by Mr. Mucha, to approve the minutes with corrections. Motion unanimously carried.

NEW BUSINESS

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Ratification of Applications to Sit for the ASWB Clinical Exam

Ms. Malloy moved, seconded by Ms. Mason, to ratify the application to sit for the ASWB Clinical Exam for April Albury-Harmon. Motion unanimously carried.

Ms. Malloy moved, seconded by Ms. Mason, to ratify the application to sit for the ASWB Clinical Exam for Gillian Chase. Motion unanimously carried.

Ms. Malloy moved, seconded by Ms. Mason, to ratify the application to sit for the ASWB Clinical Exam for Julie Landis. Motion unanimously carried.

Ms. Malloy moved, seconded by Ms. Mason, to ratify the application to sit for the ASWB Clinical Exam for Jasmine Wynn. Motion unanimously carried.

Ratification of Applications for Licensure by Reciprocity

Ms. Malloy moved, seconded by Ms. Bisgood, to ratify the application for licensure by reciprocity for Kathleen Adamek. Motion unanimously carried.

Ms. Malloy moved, seconded by Ms. Bisgood, to ratify the application for licensure by reciprocity for Vicki Fisher. Motion unanimously carried.

Ms. Malloy moved, seconded by Ms. Bisgood, to ratify the application for licensure by reciprocity for Roland Jennings. Motion unanimously carried.

Review of Application to Sit for ASWB Exam (Full Board Review Needed)

Mr. Mucha moved, seconded by Ms. Bisgood, to approve the application to sit for the ASWB Clinical Exam for Ada Morris. Motion unanimously carried.

Review of Applications for Licensure by Reciprocity (Full Board Review Needed)

Mr. Mucha moved, seconded by Ms. Mason, to approve the application for licensure by reciprocity for Lynn Kiernan. Motion unanimously carried.

Mr. Mucha moved, seconded by Ms. Mason, to approve the application for licensure for Kathy Leeper. Motion unanimously carried.

Status of Complaints

The Board was advised that Case 31-04-15 has been referred to the Office of the Attorney General.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Review of Continuing Education for Margaret Myers Pursuant to Final Order

The Board reviewed the continuing education documentation submitted by Margaret Myers, pursuant to the Final Order. Mr. Mucha moved, seconded by Ms. Teed, to accept the continuing education for section 12(b) of the Final Order, titled *Child Abuse Identification and Reporting Guidelines for Delaware Medical Providers* and *How to Identify and Report Child Abuse and Neglect in Delaware*. Motion unanimously carried.

OTHER BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD (FOR DISCUSSION ONLY)

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Ms. Mason circulated a draft of the opening statement that she will read at the beginning of every meeting for the Board to review. Minor modifications were made to the opening statement.

UNFINSIHED BUSINESS

<u>Discussion Regarding Joint Sunset Committee Recommendations</u>

Ms. Kelly advised the Board that she researched other jurisdictions statutes, and was unable to find a narrow and succinct definition of the bachelor's level of social work licensure.

Ms. Williams provided the Board with educational data, specifically the educational institutions that applicants attend, for those who are currently approved to sit for the examination. Ms. Williams advised the Board that several universities will be attending the September Board meeting, to address their curriculum, and to address how they are attempting to prepare students for the exam and licensure.

Mr. Mangler advised the board that they need to clarify the definitions for the different levels of social work, in order to determine if licensure is needed for each level. Mr. Mucha advised the Board that the data from Tennessee shows that the bachelor's level of licensure is needed. Mr. Mangler advised the Board that if a licensure level is created, individuals will seek licensure, but there needs to be evidence that by establishing a licensure level, that the risks to the public are decreased.

Mr. Mangler suggested that the Board determine exactly what a bachelor's and master's level social worker can and cannot do compared to the LCSW status. Mr. Manger also inquired as to why LCSW's can currently supervise individuals in the process of accruing hours for licensure as a Professional Counselor of Mental Health, but a LPCMH cannot supervise a LCSW. Ms. Malloy advised Mr. Mangler, that several different curriculums can lead to licensure as a LPCMH, but only a master's in social work can lead to a LCSW.

The Board discussed supervision for non-clinical licensees. Mr. Mangler suggested that the Board consider requiring supervision from a LCSW for those individuals who are seeking LCSW status. Ms. Mason proposed that the Board remove the requirement to only allow individuals to obtain supervision from a LCSW, and to keep the current requirements for supervision. She reported that it would not be feasible to only require LCSW's to provide supervision.

The Board observed a brief recess from 11:32 a.m. until 11:39 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Bailiff addressed the Board, she advised the Board that she is currently licensed in Pennsylvania. She requested clarification from the Board regarding the proposed post-enactment date, as well as if the Board would even consider substantially related degrees for licensure.

Mr. Mangler informed the Board that there could be unintended consequences for requiring a bachelor's level social work license, when there is only one university in the state that offers the program. Ms. Malloy suggested that the Board possibly reach out to the surrounding universities to see if they would be willing to establish a bachelor's social work program.

Mr. Mangler advised the Board that there are individuals that are equally qualified that can do the work, although they may not have a degree specifically in the field of social work. He suggested that the Board grandfather widely, and allow a period of time for individuals who are currently performing the defined duties to apply for a licensure via a grandfathering provision.

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Review and Discuss Previously Proposed Grandfathering and Exemption Provisions

The Board discussed potential avenues for grandfathering provisions. Ms. Williams suggested a grandfathering provision for the Board to consider. She suggested opening a 12 month window for individuals who have a substantially related degree, to be grandfathered, without taking an examination. After the 12 month window, only individuals who have a social work degree, can apply, and would have to sit for and pass the exam to obtain licensure.

The Board invited Ms. Glenn to speak. Ms. Glenn advised the board that she has a master's degree in community and family services, and considers herself a social worker. She informed the Board that there are a number of individuals who have obtained the appropriate experience and substantially related degrees, and that she finds it offensive that her degree and experience is being dismissed by the Board. Ms. Glenn requested that the Board consider developing a grandfathering provision.

Mr. Mangler informed the Board that by enabling a grandfathering provision, the Board would have jurisdiction over the licensees. He advised the Board that if a grandfathering provision is not enabled, exemptions would be established, for individuals who have substantially related degrees. When individuals are exempt, the Board would have no jurisdiction over the individual.

The Board agreed on Ms. Williams' proposed grandfathering provision. They will need to determine which degrees are substantially related, as well as determine what experience would be required. The Board will discuss this during a future meeting.

Discussion Regarding HB 69

This item was tabled.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Bailiff advised the Board that they are creating a fantastic opportunity by establishing a grandfathering provision.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for September 4th, 2015.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Malloy moved, seconded by Ms. Teed, to adjourn the meeting. Motion unanimously carried. There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessiea m. Williams

Jessica M. Williams, Administrative Specialist II Delaware Board of Clinical Social Work Examiners